



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

# Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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## CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 15

### AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Another week of intense heat has caused crop and pasture condition to decline in areas that have not had recent precipitation, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Farmers have begun preparing harvest equipment as some of the early planted corn fields are racing toward maturity. Chopping of corn silage continued during the week, and is now active even in northern counties. Sudden Death Syndrome (SDS) is becoming more prevalent in soybean fields across the state. The soybean crop desperately needs rain in some areas to finish setting and filling pods. Tobacco harvest has begun in a few southern counties.

### FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 6.2 **days suitable for field work**. Eighty percent of the **corn** is in **dough** compared with 39 percent last year and 62 percent for the 5-year average. Thirty-nine percent of the corn is in **dent** stage compared to 0 percent last year and 17 for the 5-year average. Corn **condition** is rated 60 percent good to excellent compared with 59 percent last year at this time.

Ninety-seven percent of the intended **soybean** acreage is **blooming** compared with 88 percent last year and 94 percent for the 5-year average. Eighty-three percent of the soybean acreage is **setting pods** compared with 58 percent last year and 72 percent for the 5-year average. Soybean **condition** is rated 59 percent good to excellent compared with 60 percent last year.

The **third cutting** of **alfalfa hay** is 67 percent complete, compared with 27 percent last year and 44 percent for the 5-year average.

Major activities during the week included: preparing harvest equipment, hauling grain to market, cutting and baling hay, cleaning grain bins, attending the state fair, mowing roadsides and ditches, and taking care of livestock.

### LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

**Pasture condition** is rated 45 percent good to excellent compared with 62 percent last year. Pasture condition continued to decline again during the week due to the hot, dry conditions. The extreme heat continued to stress livestock.

### CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
Percent				
Corn in Dough	80	66	39	62
Corn in Dent	39	19	0	17
Soybeans Blooming	97	94	88	94
Soybeans Setting Pods	83	74	58	72
Alfalfa, Third Cutting	67	41	27	44

### CROP CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	5	10	25	46	14
Soybean	5	9	27	44	15
Pasture	6	16	33	39	6

### SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK

Soil Moisture	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
<b>Topsoil</b>			
Very Short	13	6	11
Short	36	30	24
Adequate	47	59	54
Surplus	4	5	11
<b>Subsoil</b>			
Very Short	8	4	8
Short	31	26	26
Adequate	58	66	55
Surplus	3	4	11
<b>Days Suitable</b>	6.2	5.7	5.9

### CONTACT INFORMATION

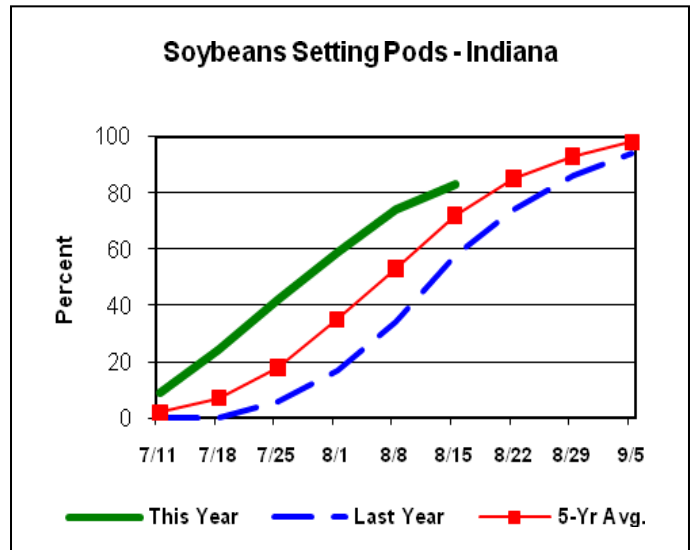
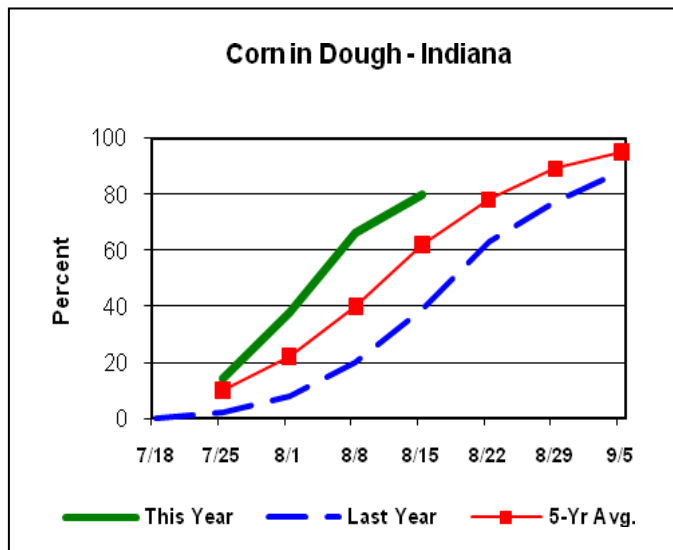
--Greg Preston, Director

--Andy Higgins, Agricultural Statistician

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[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Indiana/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Indiana/)

## Crop Progress



### Other Agricultural Comments And News

#### **Indiana Corn Crop Finishes Pollination, Grain Fill Begins**

Written by Bob Nielsen, Purdue Extension Corn Specialist. Article appears in AG Answers, August 12, 2010.

Indiana's corn crop has finished pollination and moved on to the process of grain fill, a period of 45-60 days when kernel set and weight are determined.

"The grain fill period begins with successful pollination and initiation of kernel development and ends approximately 60 days later when the kernels are physiologically mature," said Bob Nielsen, Purdue Extension corn specialist.

During this time, the plant will give precedence to the photosynthate needs of the developing kernels, sometimes at the expense of the health of other parts of the plant such as the roots and lower stalk.

This season's early planting and above-average temperatures made way for what could be an early maturity date for much of the crop. According to Nielsen, silking progress so far has been on par with the record-setting earliness of the 2004 growing season. Earlier maturity dates make it more likely that grain will have more rapid drydown in the fields before harvest, compared with the wet harvest conditions corn farmers experienced in 2009.

Part of what leads to a successful grain fill period and maximum yield is minimal plant stress.

"Severe stress during grain fill can cause kernel abortion or lightweight grain and encourage the development of stalk rot," Nielsen said. "The health of the upper leaf canopy is particularly important for achieving maximum grain filling capacity."

Right now in Indiana there are still many damaged and stunted fields from root damage after lengthy periods of saturated soils in late spring. The heavy rains that saturated soils also meant the root systems are more shallow.

"If the rain 'spigot' would shut off for the remainder of the grain fill period, droughtlike symptoms would quickly develop and take their toll on kernel survival and weight," Nielsen said.

Conditions this growing season also have been favorable for early infection of some corn foliar diseases, including gray leaf spot. Nielsen said significant loss of photosynthetically active leaf area from diseases, drought, nitrogen deficiency or hail damage during the grain fill period would weaken stalk integrity and increase plants' susceptibility to root and stalk rot organisms.

Nielsen pointed out that above-normal temperatures during grain fill are less than ideal for optimum yield.

"Excessively warm temperatures encourage a faster grain filling rate per day, which is good, but a shorter grain filling time period, which is not good," he said. "The abbreviated length of the grain filling period during warm temperatures tends to outweigh the benefits of faster daily grain filling rates."

Despite the less-than-ideal weather conditions, soil moisture has remained adequate and many plants have remained healthy. If soil moisture persists and plants stay healthy, Nielsen said there is tremendous yield potential in many of Indiana's corn fields--especially if temperatures moderate soon.

# Weather Information Table

Week Ending Sunday, August 15, 2010

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air						Avg	April 1, 2010 through				
	Temperature			Precip.			4 in	August 15, 2010				
							Soil	Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
<b>Northwest (1)</b>												
Chalmers_5W	91	64	79	+7	0.42	3		28.16	+11.01	59	2446	+222
Francesville	90	66	79	+8	0.45	1		23.14	+6.01	57	2401	+351
Valparaiso_AP_I	90	66	79	+9	0.02	1		21.54	+3.70	57	2444	+423
Wanatah	91	66	79	+9	0.01	1	82	21.54	+4.15	52	2321	+387
Winamac	91	67	80	+9	0.83	6		22.26	+5.13	66	2497	+447
<b>North Central (2)</b>												
Plymouth	91	68	79	+8	0.19	2		20.40	+2.82	51	2374	+232
South_Bend	91	70	80	+9	0.02	2		18.86	+2.14	53	2457	+448
Young_America	90	67	78	+7	1.39	3		28.16	+11.72	49	2444	+343
<b>Northeast (3)</b>												
Fort_Wayne	91	67	79	+7	1.36	2		21.75	+6.24	52	2714	+614
Kendallville	89	66	78	+8	0.99	4		19.83	+3.69	71	2365	+391
<b>West Central (4)</b>												
Greencastle	92	59	79	+5	0.12	3		23.94	+4.40	58	2454	+88
Perrysville	96	67	82	+10	0.37	3	90	24.04	+5.45	53	2789	+575
Spencer_Ag	96	61	82	+9	0.08	1		26.42	+6.41	54	2679	+449
Terre_Haute_AFB	95	67	83	+9	0.22	3		25.59	+6.91	62	2887	+527
W_Lafayette_6NW	93	64	80	+9	0.25	2	86	24.29	+7.09	49	2617	+521
<b>Central (5)</b>												
Eagle_Creek_AP	96	70	84	+11	0.00	0		22.73	+5.18	54	2944	+605
Greenfield	93	65	80	+8	2.25	2		28.29	+8.94	60	2719	+481
Indianapolis_AP	98	70	85	+12	0.01	1		20.19	+2.64	49	3027	+688
Indianapolis_SE	93	67	81	+8	0.24	2		22.09	+3.83	53	2659	+337
Tipton_Ag	92	62	79	+9	1.66	3	83	26.01	+8.56	58	2523	+487
<b>East Central (6)</b>												
Farmland	93	64	79	+9	1.74	1	82	24.76	+7.71	62	2554	+569
New_Castle	91	59	78	+7	0.24	3		27.57	+8.90	59	2431	+400
<b>Southwest (7)</b>												
Evansville	101	71	87	+11	0.03	1		12.68	-5.22	46	3329	+604
Freelandville	97	65	84	+10	0.00	0		21.58	+2.95	48	3003	+565
Shoals_8S	98	61	82	+9	0.17	1		23.45	+3.24	40	2799	+447
Stendal	100	66	86	+11	0.08	2		18.68	-1.23	42	3342	+780
Vincennes_5NE	99	65	85	+11	0.98	1		26.97	+8.34	54	3063	+625
<b>South Central (8)</b>												
Leavenworth	96	65	83	+10	0.09	2		20.17	-0.45	69	3036	+691
Oolitic	97	60	82	+9	0.01	1	89	22.71	+3.35	53	2733	+486
Tell_City	97	66	85	+9	0.09	1		18.35	-1.99	39	3216	+619
<b>Southeast (9)</b>												
Brookville	97	60	81	+9	0.51	2		20.18	+1.42	52	2753	+623
Greensburg	98	65	83	+12	0.81	2		21.78	+2.98	52	2970	+784
Seymour	95	59	81	+9	0.14	2		18.61	-0.07	46	2718	+463

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DFN = Departure From Normal.

GDD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

For more weather information, visit [www.awis.com](http://www.awis.com)  
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## Yellow Beans, Many Possibilities

Written by Christian Krupke and John Obermeyer. Article appears in the Pest & Crop, Issue 20, August 13, 2010.

- Many factors, some in combination, cause soybean plants to discolor.
- Scout to determine that spider mites are not the primary cause for yellowing.

While driving through different areas of the state it is amazing to see the number of soybean fields exhibiting areas of yellow.

A number of factors can cause leaf yellowing. These include, but not limited to, soybean cyst nematode, nutrient deficiencies, poor nodulation, herbicide injury, diseases such as sudden death syndrome, compaction, etc. Spider mites may be present along with any of these other plant stressors and may or may not be causing the discolored foliage. In other words, it's the old chicken and egg dilemma. Stressed plants actually provide better

nutrition for spider mites thus they thrive and quickly colonize areas or whole fields. The best spider mite control is to eliminate plant stress, and in the absence of timely rains, this is often easier said than done.

Before considering control, it is very important that spider mites be conclusively identified as the source of the problem. Shake some discolored soybean leaves over a white piece of paper. Watch for small dark specks moving about on the paper. Also look for very fine webbing on the undersides of the discolored leaves. Once spider mites have been positively identified in the damaged areas of the field, it is essential that the whole field be scouted to determine the range of infestation. Sample in at least five different areas of the field and determine whether the spider mites are present or not by using the "shake" method. Also look for the presence of diseased spider mites, darkened and shriveled mites. With the high humidity that we have experienced, fungal diseases can quickly spread throughout the population (epizootic). Some good news concerning our hot and muggy conditions!

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